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REPLY TO
ATTN OF: Sq Surgeon

28 June 1965

SUBJECT: Minutes of Life Support-Survival and E & E Conference

TO: Commander

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1. The combined Life Support-Survival and E & E Conference was held
[redacted] on 28 June 1965 at 0900 hours. The attendees were:



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2. The following items were discussed:

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a. [redacted] presented the status of the new 35 ft canopy, jump testing of Q445 seat kit, and the man-seat separator. These items will be tested as an integrated unit. The GFE drogue gun will be incorporated in the ejection system. Mockup meeting scheduled for late July. Flight test and jump test will be at El Centro in Aug, and get well date should be 1 Oct 65.

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b. There was considerable discussion of the possibility of "zero-zero" capability ejection system. Engineers have so far produced no favorable results. This item was felt to be of vital importance by [redacted] in view of the use of the article for carrier operations. [redacted] will keep item open and investigate possible high energy catapults or rocket-assist to seat to provide zero-zero capability.

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c. Life Support supervision of station H by this Life Support Section was discussed. [redacted] will be performing a staff visit approximately 7 July. Specific supervisory responsibilities were elaborated by [redacted]. Continued careful monitoring of Life Support for station H will be pursued.

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d. Cockpit pressure drop gauge advantages were discussed by [redacted]. [redacted] The gauge has been installed in 3 aircraft. This has already proven to be a useful item. The gauge provides information relating to proper installation and serviceability of Q445 prior to flight; serviceability and leak check after driver installation in article prior to takeoff; proper operation of article warning lights and proper

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operation and delivery of pressure of secondary and primary high pressure oxygen reducers.

e. The proposed use of a new field ambulance for dual service as P. E. vehicle and ambulance at [] was discussed by [] Such a vehicle is felt to be ideal if painted a light color and air conditioned. Procurement is highly recommended.

f. Lighter weight life raft bottle. [] stated this should be in stock in three weeks.

g. Cleanup of Q445 internal oxygen system was discussed at some length. Redistribution of oxygen components to provide only convenience of maintenance is discouraged. However, possible changes for weight-saving or to improve safety of maintenance should be investigated. This item is left open for further discussion. [] suggested incorporation of inspection window in seat pack which would enable PE technicians to insure latch is tightly closed by visual inspection.

h. Survival training program was discussed in detail after the general meeting by [] No minutes were taken.

i. Parasail program was discussed by [] The new vehicle to pull the parasail is on order, with delivery expected in August. Five well-trained people are required to operate the device. [] stressed the importance of complete coordination of the operating team and the repeated practice necessary to insure safety of operation. Headquarters will supply three people to assist [] in the training program.

j. E & E kit contents were discussed in general at the meeting and in detail after the meeting by [] requested a Headquarters position on kit contents. New charts were also requested. Updating of blood chits was discussed by []

1. The walk-around sleeping bag program is unfinished. The bag packing project is being handled by [] A prototype for evaluation at [] is expected in July. Item open for future reference.

m. Sterility of survival gear was discussed. [] stated that government-sterile items are desired. Wedge sole boots for drivers are desirable, but [] PE section feels the heel must remain on the boots to insure stirrup functioning on ejection. If a wedge sole is felt mandatory, a spur restraint or tape leg restraints are necessary.

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In this regard, color of the new 35 ft parachute received some consideration. No decision was reached, but it was agreed that colors adaptable to E & E and survival situations should be incorporated into the new parachute prior to delivery. Bright colors, such as orange and white, would be useful for training missions; dull shades would be desirable for E & E situations.

n. The portable suit cooler produced by [] will be placed in use. Fish-scales will be used to weigh the device prior to use to insure adequate oxygen supply during the transfer operation.

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o. Antisuffocation valve for the pressure suit face plate was discussed. This device is felt necessary to prevent suffocation in the unconscious driver who cannot manually open his faceplate. [] requested further investigation of this item. Item open.

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p. [] requested that [] that the new survival weapon be carried on all missions. This item will be covered by [] on his forthcoming trip to []

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3. The meeting was adjourned at 1115 hours. The next meeting will be held in approximately three months at a time and place to be determined.

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Attendees, []

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